

LISTING OF CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) An end closure assembly for a pressure vessel, the end closure assembly comprising:

a non-metal universal head member positioned in an opening in the pressure vessel, wherein the universal head member has a size complementary to the opening in the pressure vessel;

an elliptical head positioned adjacent to the universal head member;

a retainer ring member engaged with the pressure vessel for retaining the universal head member in the opening in the pressure vessel; and

a securing plate member engaged with the universal head member, the elliptical head, and the retainer ring member, the securing plate member including a tubular boss having an internally threaded portion and the universal head member including a tubular element having an externally threaded portion, the externally threaded portion located a distance from a distal end of the tubular element, the securing plate member having an elliptical shape;

wherein the retainer ring member includes three individual and separate arced elements, each of the arced elements having at least one end linked to an end of another of the arced elements, the arced elements being movable relative to each other to facilitate insertion of the retainer ring member into the pressure vessel.

Claims 2-3 (Cancelled).

4. (Original) The end closure assembly of claim 1, wherein the universal head member further comprises an integral access section.

5. (Original) The end closure assembly of claim 1, wherein the retainer ring member is non-metal.

Claims 6-8 (Cancelled).

9. (Original) The end closure assembly of claim 1, wherein the universal head member is plastic.

10. (Original) The end closure assembly of claim 1, wherein the universal head member comprises a domed-shaped element and a tubular element.

11. (Original) The end closure assembly of claim 10, wherein the tubular element comprises a threaded portion.

Claim 12 (Cancelled).

13. (Previously Presented) The end closure assembly of claim 1, wherein two of the arced elements substantially mirror each other in shape.

Claim 14 (Cancelled).

15. (Previously Presented) The end closure assembly of claim 1, wherein the retainer ring member defines concentric outer and inner portions, the outer portion having a greater diameter than the inner portion, the outer portion engaging the pressure vessel.

Claim 16 (Cancelled).